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Document No. 14.

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 Puerto demonte Rey a 28 dedissiembre de 1602.

SEBASTIAN BIZCAYN
 (hay rúbrica.)

TRANSLATION.

Your Highness¹ will have had notice already of how the Conde de Monterey, Viceroy of New Spain, in conformity with the orders which he has from His Majesty, charged me with the exploration of the harbors and bays of the coast of the South Sea from the port of Acapulco to Cape Mendocino, giving me for that purpose two ships, a *lancha*, and a *barco luengo*, together with seamen and soldiers, arms and ammunition, and provisions for eleven months; that, in accordance with the orders given to me for that end, I sailed from Acapulco on the 5th day of May of this year; that I have prosecuted said exploration, although with great difficulty and labor, because the navigation was unknown and head winds were constant, while the aid of providence and the good desire I have ever felt for serving His Majesty availed me little. I have discovered many harbors, bays and islands, as far as the port of Monterey, a harbor which is in thirty-seven degrees of latitude, surveying all and sounding, and noting the sailing-directions, according to the

1. This letter evidently was not written to the King, but to some person of very high rank in Spain, as Vizcaino mentions the monarch in the third person and as the title of "Highness" was given only to princes of the blood. It is to be regretted that the name of this personage has not been given in connection with the copy of the document.

art of navigation, without neglecting any substantial thing concerning the same, and noting what the land and the numerous peoples dwelling therein seemingly promise. I send a copy to the said Conde, in order that he may transmit the information to His Majesty and to Your Highness. As to what this harbor of Monterey is, in addition to being so well situated in point of latitude for that which His Majesty intends to do for the protection and security of ships coming from the Phillipines: In it may be repaired the damages which they may have sustained, for there is a great extent of pine forest from which to obtain masts and yards, even though the vessel be of a thousand tons burthen, live oaks and white oaks² for ship-building, and this close to the seaside in great number. And the harbor is very secure against all winds. The land is thickly peopled by Indians and is very fertile, in its climate and the quality of the soil resembling Castile, and any seed sown there will give fruit, and there are extensive lands fit for pasturage, and many kinds of animals and birds—as is set forth in the report referred to.

I advise His Majesty concerning the great extent of this land and its numerous population, and what promise it holds forth, and what the Indians have given me to understand concerning the people of the interior, and of how gentle and affable the people is, so that they will receive readily, as I think, the holy gospel and will come into subjection to the royal crown; and, since His Majesty is lord and master of all, let him provide as may seem best to him. As to what it behooves me to do on my part, I will serve him till death.

With regard to my having delayed longer than the time which was thought necessary for this exploration : Because of the many difficulties of which I have spoken, the greater part of the provisions and ammunition which were furnished to me has been expended; while, owing to the great labors which my crews have gone through, a number of men have fallen ill and some have died—so that for making the exploration at this time, as well of the region of Cape Mendocino as of the entire littoral³ of the Californias, as is called for by my orders, I have met with obstacles to

2. *Encina* I translate *live oak*. The Californian tree so called is *quercus agrifolia* and not the *quercus virens* of the trans-sierran coast. *Roble* is *quercus robur*, which is not found in California; I use the word *white oak*, a tree of which there are several varieties in California. In Mexico the name *roble* is applied to all oaks other than live oaks.

3. In the original the word is *ensenada*, meaning *bight*, a word not expressing the idea meant to be conveyed. It may be, possibly, that by *ensenada de Californias* what we know as the Gulf of California is meant. See, in this connection, the concluding remarks made by the Viceroy in his letter to the King dated 26th November, 1597, and the resolution of the India Council concerning the suggestion made.

the completion of all the work without considerable succor in the way of provisions, people and ammunition, and speedy dispatch of these. Let the Admiral be advised by the said Conde of this, he asking him for what is necessary, and letting him know to what place and at what time he must dispatch these things to me (sending to him also the map, report and sailing-directions concerning all I have done in said exploration to the present time) so that Your Highness may order that the same be sent to me. I trust in God that I may do a great service to His Majesty and that I shall discover great realms and riches. Of all that may be done I shall advise Your Highness, as opportunities for doing this may present themselves, with truth and faithfully. May Our Lord guard Your Highness, a ward so necessary to the christian. I am the servant of Your Highness.

Harbor of Monterey, 28th December, 1602.

SEBASTIAN VIZCAINO.
(*a rubrica.*)

Document No. 15.

CARTA á S. M. de Sebastian Vizcaino fechada en Megico á 23 de Mayo de 1603, participando su regreso del descubrimiento y demarcacion de las costas de las Californias hasta los 42 grados de latitud norte.

El año pasado de seiscientos dos por órden de vuestro virrey Conde de Monterrey, fuí á descubrir la costa de la mar del sur con dos navios una lancha y un barco luengo, con la gente de mar y guerra pertrechada y bastecida de lo necesario para un año, sali del puerto de Acapulco como entonces di aviso á vuestra magestad á cinco de Mayo del dicho año y en conformidad con la orden é instruccion que lleve descubri muy puntualmente toda la costa sin dejar puerto, baya, ysla ni ensenada que no se sondase y demarcase conforme á buena cosmografia y arte de marcar, porque como á vuestra magestad escribió su virrey llevé un cosmografo de confidencia y ciencia en tablas geograficas en mi compañía para que muy estensamente pusiese y apuntase en mapa y carta lo que vuestra magestad mandara ber por la que el dicho virrey enbia